an outer cover layer molded on said inner cover layer, said outer cover layer comprising a relatively soft polymeric material selected from the group consisting of low flexural modulus ionomer resins and non-ionomeric thermoplastic elastomers.

17.   (Once Amended)   A multi-layer golf ball comprising:

a spherical dual core, said dual core having a coefficient of restitution of at least 0.750;

an inner cover layer molded over said spherical dual core to form a spherical intermediate ball, said inner cover layer comprising an ionomeric resin including about 17% to about 25% by weight of an alpha, beta-unsaturated carboxylic acid and having a modulus of from about [15,1000] 15,100 to about 70,000 psi; and

an outer cover layer molded over said spherical intermediate ball to form a multi-layer golf ball, the outer layer comprising a non-ionomeric thermoplastic selected from the group consisting of polyester elastomer, polyester polyurethane and polyester amide, said outer cover layer having a modulus in a range of about 1,000 to about 30,000 psi.

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed June 8, 1999, the Examiner asked that the application numbers in the specification be updated. Also, the Examiner asserted that the effective filing date for the four layer balls (claims 1-19) is April 10, 1996 and the five layer balls (claims 20-36) is March 27, 1998. Claims 1-7, 11, and 17-19 were rejected as either anticipated under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e), or obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 5,873,796 (Cavallaro). Claims 1-19 were also rejected for obviousness type double patenting. Each of these matters is addressed below.

Applicants acknowledge that the Examiner allowed claims 20-36.

A.   All Application Numbers in the Specification Have Been Updated

The Examiner requested that Applicants update the Cross References to Related Applications and update all other references to application serial numbers in the specification. Applicants herewith submit an updated Cross References to Related